[29th March 1963

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Before taking decisions, do Government in such cases estimate the approximate expenditure and if it is negligible, is it not to be welcomed on the part of the Government to consider these proposals?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Government do take into account the approximate cost for the commitment. But, at the same time, I would like to tell the hon. Member that it is not a question of the cost for the commitment alone, but that there are certain principles also.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : May I just give information that once the Government have conceded the principle, there is no harm in applying the principle with retrospective effect?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The hon. Member may say that there will be no harm in it. But Government, as I have stated, have taken into account all aspects of this question and taken this decision.

* 111 *Q.*—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any Government order was passed in September 1961, sanctioning pension to teachers in Non-Government schools during re-employment after retirement; and

(*b*) if so, the date from which such sanction to draw pension has been given?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) 16th September 1961.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : As it is a question of principle, as suggested by the Government, cannot that principle be extended to those who retired before 16th September 1961 that no teacher should draw less than what he drew before retirement?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Government have considered that aspect and taken the decision.

Rural Medical Practitioners

* 112 *Q.*—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of L.M.Ps. working as Rural Medical Practitioners in the State as on 1st July 1962;

(*b*) their scale of pay; and

(*c*) under whom they are working?

THE HON. SRIMATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM : (*a*) 42.

(*b*) They are paid a fixed subsidy of Rs. 65 per mensem.

(*c*) Panchayat Union Councils.